United Nations A/62/L.25/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
2 June 2008

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 116
Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Belarus, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan: draft resolution

Global Forum on Migration and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the 2005 World Summit Outcome[1] acknowledged the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents and reaffirmed the resolve to take measures to ensure the respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families,

Recalling also the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the interrelationship between migration and development, and the importance of ensuring that the perspective on the human rights of migrants is included as a priority matter in all relevant debates that are held in the United Nations system,

Stressing the need to promote a comprehensive and coherent discussion on the phenomenon of migration, taking into account its importance on the global agenda,

Considering that the report of the Secretary-General of 18 May 2006 on international migration and development,[2] prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 59/241 of 22 December 2004 and 60/227 of 23 December 2005, highlighted the fact that, within the United Nations system, there is no entity mandated to systematically address all matters related to international migration,

Recalling that Member States participating in the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 14 and 15 September 2006, expressed interest in continuing the dialogue on migration and development and, with that aim, welcomed the proposal of the Secretary-General to create a global forum to address, in depth and in a systematic manner, all topics related to international migration and development,

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[1] See resolution 60/1, paras. 61 and 62.

[2] A/60/871.

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Considering that the summary of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, as contained in a note by the President of the General Assembly,[3] underlined the close link among migration, development and human rights, as well as that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants was essential for taking advantage of the positive aspects of international migration,

Recalling its resolutions 61/208 of 20 December 2006 on international migration and development, and 62/156 of 18 December 2007 on the protection of migrants,

Taking note of the outcomes of the first meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in Brussels in July 2007 under the auspices of the Government of Belgium, and the generous offer of the Government of the Philippines to host the second meeting in Manila in October 2008,

Noting with appreciation that the convening of the first meeting of the Global Forum has already resulted in the establishment of an official focal point on migration and development at the national level,

Recognizing that the Global Forum is an initiative of Member States that should be strengthened with the aim of addressing the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development with an integral approach,

1. *Recognizes* that exchanges of expertise, consultation and closer cooperation between the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the United Nations can have a positive impact, and in this regard:

(a) *Welcomes* the submission by the Government of Belgium of the summary report of the first meeting of the Global Forum to the Secretary-General and its circulation among all Member States and invites organizers of subsequent meetings of the Forum to continue this practice;

(b) *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report called for in its resolution 61/208 of 20 December 2006 an evaluation of the existing cooperation mechanisms on migration and development and to make it available to the second meeting of the Global Forum, in 2008;

(c) *Encourages* Member States to participate actively in, and the organizations that are members of the Global Migration Group to contribute and to provide technical support to, the Global Forum on Migration and Development;

(d) *Notes* that the Forum, through its Steering Group, maintains links with the Secretary-General, notably through his Special Representative on International Migration and Development;

2. *Takes note with interest* of the agenda prepared for the discussions of the Global Forum, and particularly welcomes the inclusion of the topic of the human rights of migrants;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

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[3] A/61/515.